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Presentation Title: SRTM Data Evaluation Over U.S. Urban Sites

Abstract: SRTM Data Evaluation over U.S. Urban Sites

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USGS-generated digital elevation models from the National Elevation Data (NED) set were being used at the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) for urban area applications. An assessment was carried out to see if the SRTM elevations data could support similar applications. Three urban sites were chosen for the study - Chicago, New York and San Antonio. DEM images of both data sources are presented and differences (including site specific issues) are discussed. Optical imagery is used as an ancillary source for verification of the content of the various sites. NGA has concluded that SRTM DTED 2 presents a consistent reflective surface solution over urban sites and that there are some inconsistencies between the SRTM DTED 2 and the NED data. Most of the inconsistencies can be attributed to currency differences in the source of the data. In addition there are void regions in the SRTM DTED 2 data that would likely impact support of the urban area applications.